

Application/Control Number: 09/405,777

Page 2

Art Unit: 2662

Notice of Allowability

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Barry Chapin and Paul Kriz on May 8, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Claims 1-9, 22, 23 and 33-36 have been cancelled.
- In claim 10 in line 14, the term "generates" has been deleted and replaced with the term --originates--.
- In claim 10 in line 21, after the word "source", the phrase --, wherein the request signal source is a routing mechanism operating within the data communications device-- has been inserted.
- In claim 19 in line 1, after the term "product" the phrase --, operating within a data communications device, -- has been inserted.
- In claim 19 in line 12, the term "generating" has been replaced with the term --originating--.
- In claim 19 in line 19, after the term "source" the phrase --, wherein the request signal source is a routing mechanism operating within the data communications

Application/Control Number: 09/405,777

Page 3

Art Unit: 2662

device, and wherein the computer readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon for directing operation of the request signal source -- has been inserted.

- In claim 27 in line 15 the term "generating" has been deleted and replaced with the term -- originating --.
- In claim 27 in line 5, the term "node" has been deleted and replaced with the phrase "communications device".
- In claim 27 in line 8, the term "node" has been deleted and the term "communications device" has been inserted.
- In claim 27 in line 22 the term "the" has been inserted between the terms "to" and "data".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 10-20 and 24-32 (renumbered as 1-9,13,14,10-12 and 15-20) are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest a data communications device having a routing mechanism and an agent process both operating therein and wherein the agent process performs the steps of intercepting a request signal transmitted from a request signal source to a host computer, wherein the request signal is originally destined for receipt by the host computer that would have responded with control information for controlling a manner in which the request signal source transfers the data stream, originating a control signal in response to the request signal, wherein the control signal includes information for controlling the manner in which the request signal source transfers the data stream and providing the control signal to the

Application/Control Number: 09/405,777

Page 4

Art Unit: 2662

source in order to individually control the manner in which the source transfers the data stream among multiple data streams, all of which is recited in independent claims 10, 19 and 27 (renumbered as 1, 13 and 15, respectively).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

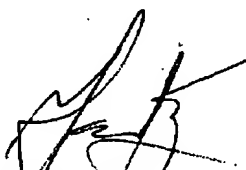
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Odland, who can be reached at (703) 305-3231 on Monday – Friday during the hours of 8am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached at (703) 305-4744. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist, who can be reached at (703) 305-4750.

deo

May 24, 2004


HASSAN KIZOU
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